

UPSTAIRS BULLETIN

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An Educational Group

Oft, in the stilly night,
Ere slumber chain has found me,
Fond memory brings the light
Of other days around me.

- Thomas Moore

In the span of a lifetime, one has many portions of time in which we cluster memories, memory clusters of friends, feelings, incidents, days and moments, things left unsaid, experiences left untried, and happenings that should never have happened. As one grows older, this catalogue of memories grows into colossal proportions and is divided into time-segments varying from moments to decades. Life can be rich if one makes it so and the holidays can be an indication of how rich we have made our lives.

The essence of the season should be thoughtfulness and kindness to those who touch our lives most closely. One does not have to love everyone but the time is short to say to those that you do love that they are dear to you. How does one do this? Not necessarily with elaborate gifts or profuse unfelt words. It can be as simple as a hand painted rock, a flower, a tatted Christmas card, a well placed phrase, a book that reflects a personal taste, or a musical idea with some intellectual connotation. It can be an old photograph that brings to mind other voices, other fragrances, or other sounds. Life was beautiful and this very moment will be, at yet another day, if you help make it so.

Leaving Chicago's icy streets and bitter winds, we flew the 26th on Eastern Air Lines for a balmier climate - the destination - Duck Key, Florida. Past winter vacations have been failures in quest of sun - both in Phoenix. With two bikinis for the body and two books for the mind, I was prepared to

rest and did. The books - "Sun & Steel" by Mishima and "The only Revolution" by Krishnamurti. Mishima who recently committed seppuku, has long been a favorite writer of mine and spoke of "muscles encased in sunlit skin" and Krishnamurti whom I have followed since the early 20's, says that "meditation is the root, the plant, the flower and the fruit". He states further - "The world is not an illusion but a terrible reality which man, in his relationship with his fellow men, has constructed." I might add that neither book proved to be relaxing reading.

The idea that one saves time flying is an absurdity. The time spent getting to the airport, checking your baggage, waiting to board the plane, and once strapped into your seat, the waiting for the plane to get off the ground and finally circling the field to get down, all added up makes it seem like a mule train. The fluctuation of temperatures you are subjected to is another annoyance not to be overlooked. We overheard a mother telling her child "If you are not patient, we will never fly again".

Once at Duck Key, Sunday thru Thursday night supplied what we had hoped for - a good rest - sunshine and fresh air. Unless one is the athletic-game type person, or a fisherman, the island offers little else but rest. The Indies Inn, where we stayed was large and spacious, pleasant with no doubt the most mismanaged dining room service on the North American Continent. A great floating help problem brings chaos to these southern resorts. The surrounding water, canals, inlets and ocean were a great variety of heavenly greens, blues, and even violet

shades. The sunbathing was perfect with sun every day as long as one could take it. Photography was limited to water scenes, flowers - Ixoria, hibiscus and startling bougainvillea, palm trees, Australian pines and colorful sunsets.

This Bulletin is a news one and there is a great deal to tell. The very best news was JOHN SHARPE's and it could not have happened to a more deserving person. He was the one of his generation who would most appreciate a trip to Europe and never went. On January 28th, he and his entire family will fly to Munich where he will assist BOB FOSSE on the movie "Cabaret". They will be there through the month of May. BUD TYGETT will also be going to Germany the end of April to stage his ballet "Shindig" in Gelsenkirchen. In a generally bad review for a performance of the Contemporary Ballet Assembly of New York in Dance Mag, the reviewer said that - "one compensation was the attractive ballet dancing of MARTI INGLE. DONNIE JO PAPSALIS was married Thanksgiving week - her new handle - BIDDLE. SHARON RUPPERT was also married on November 21st to Archibald Johnston Jr. NANCY MC CLOUD still on tour with "Disney on Parade" but may leave in the spring to go to Europe.

VIRGINIA GANNON, now a High School teacher in Glen Ellyn, once our accompanist in the Stevens Building days, visited not too long ago and commented - "I have been telling my colleagues about your well-groomed, well-disciplined and courteous classes and we are all envious, as well as admiring of your strength in maintaining standards." FRUMETH SIEGEL and husband, SHELLY, were in Thanksgiving from Marquette, Michigan, where he is a teacher. Frumeth has joined a Writers' Group and has been doing the dance reviews in that town. JIM & LINDA MOORE are expecting again. He also did a ballet for the Ballet Theatre Dance Players. BETTINA ROSAY wrote that she was considering

Alexis Hoff for the soloist in the New Music Hall show. JAMES SHANNON is still on tour with Gloria Swanson in "Butterflies are Free" - he is under-study to the lead. NANNETTE SEWARD TWARDAS now has 3 young boys and her husband doing better after last year's heart attack but needs heart surgery. PHYLLIS DE WEESE was in for several days with a group of her well trained students the first part of December - JILL SHELLENBERGER among them.

Phyllis now looks great and seems to be her old self again. WINI & PAUL BOKOR's card suggests - in fact, states that they are now the proud parents of four boys, Rusty, Rickey, John and Danny. Wini was one of the better teachers of the Adult Basic class a few years back. KAREN & JANE ROSE have supplied Dr. & Mrs. Rose with eight beautiful grandchildren - a great bunch of toe-heads. VIOLET POTTER (Stevens Bldg. days) who now lives in Tubac, Arizona had surgery last August - "a radical mastectomy" - has made a good recovery but not well enough to mail Xmas cards, so we pass the word on. MARIE MURPHY went on a five week vacation last summer to Spain alone...left her 8 or 9 children with hubbie to shift for themselves, but as in all large families, they managed well and Marie had a great time. Daughter, MICHELLE, had been there for a year and will return for another to get her degree in Spanish. CLARENCE JAY DEVLIN had a busy summer in stock playing leads in "Design for Living", "Cactus Flower", "Never too Late", and was playing in "Caine Mutiny Court Martial" when Chester Morris died. The Devlins now have their own home in the country, as Jay puts it - "with clean air, trees, grass, moon stars and all that stuff". CATHY PARKIN performed with the Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra in a Kinderkonzert. Her dance was choreographed by Lupe Serrano. Cathy was to spend the holidays in New York studying. KATHY JOHNSON went home for the holidays and from there will head on to New York to try her wings in the

jungle. VALERIE ROSAY wrote on her Xmas card - "I think of the old days when we were happy together on so little." That was the 30's and we did have very little, but we were truly happy in those hard times.

LOUISE & EVERETT RYAN do square dancing and bicycle riding to keep fit and touring summers in their airstream trailer. She writes that BARBARA SCHMIDT is getting ready to tour Africa and MARION LEWIS lives in a world of cocktail parties and golf. YVONNE BROWN underwent surgery last July having a goiter removed on the left side and a small cancer on the right. She says she was lucky in the timing of the operation. BRIAN PETERMAN is now a follower of Mahareshi Mahest/Yogi, who teaches transcendental Meditation. Sounds too deep for this Yogi, but it pulled Brian through a very bad situation where he says he now has "grown to be a good and evolving member of our family". RANDI SCHULTZ wrote recently from Paris that she had arrived first in Brussels and from there to Amsterdam and then to Paris where she found work for the month of December in Nantes. As of July, TOM & CAROL TERRIEN have separated and are in the process of getting a divorce. Carol will continue to operate the school in Racine. DIANE SPERBERG TALLMADGE writes that "ANITRA EARLE" is doing some fine reviewing in the San Francisco papers (even if she doesn't always agree). Having received some of these reviews at this end, we feel Anitra badly needs a brush up course on dance again. MARY FORMOLA home from Montreal where she is one of the leading modern dancers in that city. JUDY CONWAY SVALANDER began the season dancing her first "Carmen" (Petit) in Gothenberg and is now busy rehearsing in the Swedish production of "Napoli" (the first full length production outside of Denmark). She has prominent parts with two solos in this ballet - is working hard and loving every minute of it. Our other Scandanavian, CHARLES SCHICK, recovering from an

extremely serious knee operation which he had in Denmark. He was given a 50-50 chance of success. Now the doctors feel that the operation was a complete success, but it will be a year before he is back at work. SONIA AROVA says that Chuck had been doing very well and was a highly useful dancer in her Oslo company. CARMEN HYLTON, daughter of Carmencita Romero, once a scholarship student at SC, was flown from Rome to New York (where her mother has a school) where she is in a hospital mysteriously paralyzed and in a wheel chair. LOWELL DOVELL, brother of Jean, died of a heart attack last January. DARRELL & SALLY NOTARA, a career team on Cruises are off on January 25th on the M. S. Europa. They have covered a great part of the world on these tours. LIAN SKERPAN wants to be remembered to all her friends in the school. She is studying at Alan Howards in San Francisco.

A nice paragraph on the ELOISE MOORE card bares repeating - "I am so glad you've both decided to teach for 5 more years. I doubt if your contribution to professional dance and to sheer style in manners and living can ever be truly evaluated. I'm sure there are many ex-students who never realized when the duckling became the swan - not completely, in some cases, but I'm sure they all stand a little taller for the experience." JUANITA (Garber) & DOUG WEIR's card announce the adoption of Justin Christopher (4 months) on December 1st. So the holidays were very special for them this year. JACQUELINE MC KANNAY has been dancing with the New York City Opera Co. since last August and was on tour with them for 3 weeks. JUNE DUNAWAY's family have moved to Dallas and June has been at Texas Christian and is involved in the Fort Worth Ballet Co. CHARLOTTE CONATSER's studio burned shortly before her fall opening and she has been teaching in a public building. She is still unable to find new

quarters. DEE ANN PLATNER is a Junior at Oklahoma University. JANE ROBERTSON, also a pupil of Charlotte and a summer student at SC was to be home from New York at Christmas. BARBARA (Steffi) MACFARLANE graduated last spring and is back at the University of Cincinnati on an assistant teaching fellowship for her masters. She is a principal dancer with the Cincinnati Civic Ballet. ELISABETH HADYN comes in periodically from Denver for lessons and to visit with her Grandmother. Both Elisabeth and Barbara were with us at the same time.

MARY TERESE HEIM left the Convent after 20 years in November and is working for a MS at Purdue and is teaching Zoology full time there. She also writes that brother PATRICK HEIM recently married for the third time - naturally, this one is for keeps. BILL GATEWOOD stopped in for a short visit - he is now supposedly learning to be a jeweler in New York. JOHN WIDMER, also in from New York visiting friends, does not seem to be too involved in dance. MARY GEHR RAY is on an extended tour of India and will arrive in Athens sometime in the spring for a 'one-man' showing of her art work there. Here at home, her work is extremely popular and her work has been in Art Institute shows. The Chicago dance scene has been saddened by the deaths of: ERIC BRAUN, REX COOPER (Albia Kavan's husband), MARION COLE and EDITH RASPIS. We always look forward to hearing from the "Old Civic Opera Bunch" and worry when we do not hear from them. This year, we did not hear from SANDY GIBSON & NAOMI HELTNANE and do wonder if they are all right. We had a round-about message from EDWARD CATON and did hear from HARRIET LUNDGREN, FLORENCE STRECHNEV, MARGOT KOCH, BARBARA STEELE, LOUISE SHOTT, JULIA BARASHKOVA, EDWINA SMITH, LYMETTE CORRIGAN, VIRGINIA SCHWAB and BARBARA SCHMIDT. To our pupils who "have so little time to do many things they should do and wish to do - and intend to do but do not" it is only

the very busy person who finds the time to do everything.

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This is the true joy of life, the being used for a purpose recognized by yourself as a might one; the being thoroughly worn out before you are thrown on the scrap heap; the being a force of nature instead of a feverish selfish little clod of ailments and grievances, complaining that the world will not devote itself to making you happy.

- George Bernard Shaw.